

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 15, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 remain in this application, where claims 1, 4, 12 and 18 are independent.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-20 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Such amendments to claims 1-20 were not made in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 4 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 4 and 12 contain patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claims 4 and 12 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 4 and 12 be allowed.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6-11, 13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,987,284 (Hioki). Further, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Hioki in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,936,341 (Nanoux). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Hioki in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,697,131 (Takami). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5-11 and 14-20 are patentable Hioki, Nanoux and Takami for at least the following reasons.

Hioki is directed to a flexible active matrix type display device. As shown in FIG 1B and described on column 7, lines 35-38, the Hioki display includes a thin glass layer 103 glued to a plastic substrate 101 via an adhesion layer 102. As recited on

column 7, lines 46-48, the glass layer 103 has projections and depressions. That is, the layer having projections and depressions is the glass layer 103, which is an insulator.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 18, amongst other patentable elements recites (illustrative emphasis provided) :

the second layer has a corrugated structure and is in contact with the first layer along a substantial portion of the length of the second layer so as to prevent fracture of the second layer when the first layer is deformed, wherein the second layer comprises a conductive electrode.

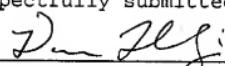
A conductive electrode in contact with the first layer along a substantial portion of the electrode length is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Hioki. Rather, Hioki discloses an insulating glass layer 103 having projections and depressions. Nanoux and Takami are cited to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Hioki.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1 and 18 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-3, 5-11, 13-17 and 19-20 should also be

allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 15.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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